(c) whether any effort has been made to interact with leading medical institutions, hospitals and medical colleges to share their time and facilities to treat trauma for road accident victims; and

(d) the details of such steps taken in 2005-06 and the current year by NHAI and other agencies relevant to this subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) NHAI does not set up the Trauma Centres along National Highways.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the scheme "Assistance for capacity Building", Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides financial assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 1.50 corres or actual, whichever is less, for upgradation and strengthening of emergency facilities of State Hospitals of towns/cities located on National Highways. Meetings are regularly conducted with NHAI, Department of Road Transport and Highways and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) regarding development of Trauma Centres in MoH&FW's scheme.

(d) One hospital each at Vishakhapatnam and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh have been given assistance during 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively for upgradation and strengthening of emergency facilities of hospital. As regards the State of Orissa, one hospital at Behrampur has been given assistance during 2006-07 under this scheme.

National Road Safety Council

1743. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National Road Safety Council was held recently;

(b) the details of this meeting and names of NGO participants;

(c) what were the conclusions of this meeting;

(d) what were the lapses and inefficiencies identified at this meeting; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, the 9th meeting of National Road Safety Council was held on 22nd September, 2006 at Shimla.

(b) Krishna District Lorry Owners' Association, Vijaywada (A.P.) Zoram Drivers Union, Aizwal, Mizroram, Dr. M.N. Tandon Memorial Trust, Jaipur Rajasthan; Lifeline Foundation, Vadodara, Gujarat and Rashtriya Yuva Sangthan, Karnal (Haryana) have participated in the said meeting.

(c) to (e) The agenda items included amendment of Section 21(2) of the Highways Administration Rules, 2004 strengthening of institutional mechanism in States for road safety and earmarking 50% of fines on account of challans on traffic violations for road safety measures in States.

It was decided to amend Section 21(2) of the Highways Administration Rules, 2004 relating to evidence proving the ownership of vehicle or animal to the satisfaction of Highways administration if the same has been taken into custody. It was observed that there is a need to strengthen institutional mechanism in States for promoting road safety and also earmarking more funds for road safety measures in States/UTs.

Further, in order to promote road safety, it was decided to constitute a Committee of Experts to "set up Road Safety Clubs for school children to promote road safety habits". Another Committee was decided to constitute for "evolving mechanism to provide immediate trauma care services to the road accident victims" in the country.

Government funds for development of NHs

1744. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous Government had taken up the development of National Highways by providing Government funds through NHAI;

(b) if so, whether the present Government are taking up the Development of National Highways by Annuity and BOT method of funding;

(c) what is the difference between the mode of funding among these schemes (Government, Annuity and BOT); and